

## Vienna Choir Boys – 500th Anniversary (2006)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Te Deum Hob. Xxiiic:2* 8:35 [play](#) 2. *Magnificat D 486* 9:58 3. *Krönungs Te Deum* 12:46 4. *Gesang der Geister über den Wassern D 714* 11:26 5. *Kronungsmesse KV 317: Kyrie* 3:10 6. *Kronungsmesse KV 317: Gloria* 4:49 7. *Kronungsmesse KV 317: Credo* 6:26 8. *Kronungsmesse KV 317: Sanctus* 1:31 9. *Kronungsmesse KV 317: Benedictus* 3:18 [play](#)  
10. *Kronungsmesse KV 317: Agnus Dei* 6:08  
Austria Vienna 1998

The Vienna Boys' Choir (also The Vienna Choir Boys, German: Wiener Sängerknaben) is a choir of trebles and altos based in Vienna. It is one of the best known boys' choirs in the world. The boys are selected mainly from Austria, but also from many other countries.

The choir is a private, not-for-profit organization. There are approximately 100 choristers between the ages of ten and fourteen. The boys are divided into four touring choirs, named for Bruckner, Haydn, Mozart and Schubert, which perform about 300 concerts each year before almost 500,000 people. Each group tours for about nine to eleven weeks.

Over the centuries, the choir has worked with many composers including Heinrich Isaac, Hofhaimer, Biber, Fux, Caldara, Gluck, Salieri, Mozart, Franz Schubert, and Bruckner.

The choir is the modern-day descendant of the boys' choirs from the Viennese Court, dating back to the late Middle Ages. The choir was, for practical purposes, established by a letter written by Maximilian I of Habsburg on 7 July 1498. In the letter the Emperor instructed court officials to employ a singing master, two basses and six boys. Jurij Slatkonja became the

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director of the ensemble. The role of the choir (numbering between fourteen and twenty) was to provide musical accompaniment to the church mass.

The boys received a solid musical education, which in most cases had a significant impact on the rest of their lives, as many went on to become professional musicians. The composers Jacobus Gallus and Franz Schubert, and the conductors Hans Richter, Felix Mottl, Georg Tintner and Clemens Krauss were members of the choir. Additionally, the Haydn brothers were members of the St. Stephen's Cathedral choir, directed at the time by Georg Reutter II who used this choir in his duties for the imperial court which at the time had no boy choristers of its own.

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